(b) how many new trains are being introduced for the Janata traveller, as compared to Rajdhanis, Shatabdis etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATTON(SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways are a member of the International Union of Railways since 1957. Its French name is "Union Internationale des chemins de fer." However this is an Association of Railways having 138 members; and it cannot be described as 'Elite.' The steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the railways to make the journey of passengers better, safer and cheaper are as under:

(i) Bed rolls are now supplied to all the passengers travelling in AC 3 tier coaches without realising any charge in the train;

(ii) Provision of cushioned berths in sleeper class coaches;

(iii) Supply of water pouches with the meal to the passengers;

(iv) Provision of Interactive Voice Response System;

(v) Improvement of passenger Information system;

(vi) Provision of signage etc. at stations;

(vii) Introduction of computerised reservation system at more and more cities;

(viii) Introduction of Tatkal reservation system in trains to provide reservation at short notice;

(ix) Introduction of UIC vestibules to facilitate inter-coach access to passengers on run;

(x) PVC flooring inside coaches and stainless steel Mays in the toilets of all types of coaches;

(xi) Regular cleaning of water tanks provided in coaches;

(xii) Periodic intensive cleaning of coaches;

(xiii) Rake renovation particularly of passenger trains.

(b) During the current year 26 pairs of Express trains are being introduced. Out of these only 2 pairs of weekly trains are of Rajdhani type. All the remaining trains are meant for serving the common traveller.

Expansion of Calcutta.Metro System

746. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have decided that expansion of the Calcutta Metro System will be feasible only if Government of West Bengal contributes two-thirds of the investment cost;

(b) whether this decision implies formal concurrence with the view that railway development in the country is the joint responsibility of the Union and State Government; and

(c) whether under the circumstances Government propose to enact an amendment to the constitution transferring 'Railways' from the Union List of the Sixth Schedule to the Concurrent List?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION(SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of serious constraint of funds in the Railway Plan for works to cater for long distance passenger and freight traffic, Railways have been requesting the State Governments to participate in the funding of the urban rail transport projects as the primary beneficiary of the project is the State/City.

(c) No, Sir.

Notification on reservation orders in Railway Services

747. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of notifications to which reservation orders do not apply (exemption from reservation orders) in the Railway services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): On the Railways, the following posts have been excluded from the purview of reservation:—

(i) Vacancies filled up by transfer/ deputation

(ii) Vacancies filled up by promotions where the element of direct recruitment exceeds 75%.

(iii) Temporary appointment of less than 45 days duration.

(iv) Promotions against leave vacancies of less than 45 days;

(v) Those work charged posts which are required for emergencies, like flood relief work, accident restoration and relief etc.;

(vi) Appointment of Casual Labourers/ Subsitutes;

(vii) Posts filled up in production Control Organisation by drafting staff from the shop floor on ex-cadre tenure basis without involving promotions. However, when the ex-cadre tenure posts are filled up through promotions, reservation rules will apply;

(viii) Posts of Instructors in Training Schools filled by drafting employees from other departments on tenure basis;

(ix) Posts of Vigilance Inspector;

(x) In a scheme of upgradation where all the posts in a category are upgraded;

The exclusions listed at S. Nos. (i) to (v) above are based on the para 3.3 of Chapter III of the Brochure on the Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes in Services(8th Edition), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training, New Delhi, 1993.

As regard S.No, (vi), it is to state that the engagement of casual labour is done for seasonal intermittent sporadic works. In the same way, the substitutes are engaged on non availability of permanent or temporary railway servants against the posts which cannot be kept vacant even for a short period. Thus, the engagements of casual labour/substitutes are done for short periods and are not counted as temporary appointments. Therefore, engagement of casual labour/substitutes has been kept outside the purview of reservation rules. However, the authorities who engage casual labour/substitutes have been advised that the intakes should as far as possible be according to the prescribed percentages of reservation in favour of Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe communities.

The exclusions as per S.Nos. (vii) to (ix) are based on the consideration that these posts are filled up on deputation basis for a specific lenure.

It may be mentioned that the post of Vigilance Inspector appearing at S.No, (ix) was reserved prior to 1964, vide the instruction contained in Board's letter No. E(SCT)57CMI/ 20 dated 27th April 1959. Subsequently, vide Board's letter No. E(SCT)/62/CM/15/10 dated 28th March, 1964, the post of Vigilance Inspector was excluded from the scope of reservation in promotion grade.

Regarding S.No.(x), it is not really an exclusion, because all the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates get the benefit of upgradation alongwith the general candidates.

Completion of Irrigation Work Near Railway Bridge at Dendulum Railway Station

748. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representatiosn have been received by the South Central Railway to cooperate in completing irrigation works near Railway Bridge at Dendulum Railway Station in West Godavari district;

(b) whether it is a fact that Irrigation Department of Andhra Pradesh has also written in this context;

(d) what steps are proposed to expedite cooperation on a practical basis between Andhra Pradesh Government and South Central Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND